

“DISCUSSION”

Claims 1-3 and 5 are pending in the application. Claim 4 has been canceled.

It is important to note that alpha-cellulose is to be used in the claimed invention. In order to obtain the alpha-cellulose, regular cellulose is deconstructed, and then the alpha-cellulose is separated from the beta and gamma cellulose. Processes for doing this are known in the art. It is also important that the cellulose be compacted to the claimed density. However, the final requirement is that the compacted composition is dried to remove a portion of the water. As stated in the application this leaves void in the compacted composition. Voids that can be filled with liquid thereby producing a moisten bait that termites prefer. As shown in Example two the termites mainly preferred the moist bait over the dry bait as the voids in the claimed bait were more fully filled with a liquid.

The cited reference does not disclose the identically claimed invention. Nor does the cited reference disclose the importance of drying the compacted composition to produce voids. In fact, considering that the art expressly teaches the importance of water in a termite bait, it would be unexpected to remove the water from the termite bait. For example, in Burns they are placing the bait in a casing to prevent desiccation of the moisture in the toxicant containing matrix. (col. 11, lines 1-2, 13-15).

“CONCLUDING REMARKS”

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration of the application and its allowance are respectfully requested. **The Respondents respectfully request a telephone interview if this reply does not place the claims in position for allowance.** The attorney of record can be reached at (317) 337-5115.

Respectfully submitted,

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